Upward Bound is a federally funded college preparatory designed to enhance academic skills and motivation. The program, housed at the University of Virginia for nearly forty years, offers academic instruction, tutoring, and counseling to high school students from eleven Central Virginia High Schools (see inside).

Participating students receive academic support geared towards their needs. Upward Bound assists its seniors with the college admissions process and securing financial aid. Seniors are taught valuable study skills that will assist them with standardized tests (SATs and ACTs). High School principals, counselors, and UVA faculty are all involved in giving help and encouragement to Upward Bound students.

Please Note: There is no cost for Upward Bound; it is federally funded.

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Upward Bound UVa: Get the inside scoop

Upward Bound is a year-round commitment. Participants are expected to attend our Saturday Sessions during the academic year, and our Summer Residential Program. Students are expected to remain in the program until they complete high school.

Academic Year Component
Approximately two Saturdays a month from September until May, you will attend sessions at the University of Virginia. Participants will receive tutoring, counseling, and instruction in Study Skills, Math, Science, English, and Foreign Languages. Students are also invited to participate in a variety of non-academic activities throughout the year.

Summer Residential Component
For 4-5 weeks during the summer in June and July, participants live on-grounds at the University of Virginia. Students take classes in Science, Math, Social Studies, English, along with a nightly study hall. There is also a number of athletic and non-athletic enrichment events to complement the classroom activities. Guests present on topics such as college preparation and careers. During the summer, Upward Bound Students are also able to take advantage of the amenities offered by UVa.

What is Upward Bound’s Admission’s process?
Applications can be picked-up from your high school’s guidance office, or wait for a representative of the Upward Bound Program to recruit at your school. After receiving the application follow these steps:
1). Complete the parental and student sections of the application.
2). Have 2 staff members from your high school complete the recommendation forms.
3). Return the application along with recommendation forms to guidance or the Upward Bound Office by the deadline (announced at the recruitment meeting).
4). After the applications have been returned, students will be interviewed by an Upward Bound Representative (interviews will take place at school or via telephone, you will be notified).
5). A letter will be sent to your home requesting some financial info (this is required by the federal government).
6). Applicants selected for Upward Bound will be notified via mail. You will be told when to expect the letter during the interview. New students will start in June or September.

Please note: We will not consider incomplete applications.

Who can be in Upward Bound?
You may be eligible for Upward Bound if you are a 9th or 10th grader whose:

1). Parent(s) and/or legal guardian(s) have not earn a Bachelor’s Degree before the individual is admitted into the program.

And/Or

2). Meet the federal governments income guidelines for moderate-to-low income households (Please note: This can only be determined by a tax return).

Applicants must attend one of the high school listed below

- Albemarle
- Buckingham
- Charlottesville
- Fluvanna
- Louisa
- Orange
- Waynesboro
- Western Albemarle
- Monticello
- Nelson
- William Monroe

Got Questions? Contact Maurice Walker - Program Coordinator
Email: emw5m@virginia.edu | Phone 434.982.4552

**Please note that interested students are allowed to visit our Saturday Sessions. Individuals may visit April 2, 16, 30. Please contact our office if you are interested in coming. Parents/guardians are also welcome.